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WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1886.

No. 28.

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OUR WEEKLY REVIEW.

MEETING OF CONGRESS. THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. SENATOR WADE HAMPTON AND COLORED OFFICE HOLDERS. THE CONFIRMATION OF RECORDER MATTHEWS. WHAT THE COLORED PEOPLE THINK OF HIM. THE COMING NEGRO LEADER. THE SOUTH WILL PRODUCE THE GREATEST NEGRO REPRESENTATIVES.

Congress assembled last Monday, after a recess of a few months. The president sent a message, which contained a few recommendations of importance and which should demand the immediate attention of both branches. Senator

WADE HAMPTON,

of South Carolina, in a speech delivered at Summerville, S. C., said: "I will venture to say that there are more colored men holding small offices in Washington at this moment than during the whole reign of the Republicans. I am in full accord with the policy on that point. I think that where he can reward a colored man, who has been a good Democrat, who is competent to fill an office, he should do so and especially where the offices have been held by colored Republicans. I have urged him to do it and he was kind enough to say to me that wherever I could recommend men of that sort he would give them appointments."

While we will admit that the administration has treated the colored office holder as well as could be expected, we cannot admit that there are as many colored officials employed under the democratic administration as there were under the republican administration. Presuming, however, if there were as many colored democrats as there are republicans their chances for official recognition under a democratic administration would be better. If colored men are inclined to become democrats they should be assured that they will receive official recognition. Senator Hampton says that Negro republicans' positions have been filled by Negro democrats. This is untrue. Past developments constrain us to assert that a majority of the democrats are opposed to Negroes holding the positions that were held by them under the republican administration, although the president and some other democrats are inclined to give the Negro a fair recognition. The man against whom the most vile epithets were made has proven to be the best friend to the Negro, under the present administration. Notwithstanding what Secretary Lamar has done or said in the past, he has certainly been a friend to the colored office holder. While the republican seemed to be friendly disposed toward the Negro under a republican administration, there are some renegades who seem to be their bitterest enemies under this administration. We still believe, however that, it is to the interest of the Negro to divide if sufficient inducements are offered.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT

has made but a few changes among colored employees. There are republicans in the Adjutant General's office diametrically opposed to the Negro and if it were in their power not a Negro clerk would be in that department. It is Adjutant General Drum, who forces these republicans to respect the colored clerks.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT

stands in statu quo. Likewise the State Department. Both of these departments even under republican rule, have never allowed a colored clerk to enter. The cry of the democratic party was, before it came into power that it would do more for the Negro than what the republicans would. Has this declaration been carried out? Only one great republican has been superseded by a prominent colored democrat, which a republican Senate refused to confirm

which in our opinion will do the republican party harm. If the Senate refused to confirm white democrats upon the pretext that they are non residents, it would have some excuse for rejecting

MR. MATTHEWS.

Is Mr. Matthews competent? We assert, that not since the establishment of the office has there been his equal. Our legislative solons should pay a visit to the office now and see how it is governed. The majority of the colored people in this city, who are tax payers, want to see him confirmed. Senator Ingalls who seems to be the most interested party in championing the cause of the District people and objecting to Mr. Matthews' confirmation should use his influence in restoring constitutional rights to the people, the elective franchise. Let the Senate do its duty in confirming Mr. Matthews as soon as his name is sent to that body. From present indications,

HON. T. T. ALLAIN,

of Iberville, La., is the coming Negro leader of this country. He possesses wealth, brain and sincerity for race development. We believe him to have the advancement of the race at heart and a man in whom the race can confide. He is conservative in his views and a man who has the confidence and respect of the entire country. The next administration would do the handsome thing by making him Commissioner of Agriculture. The opinion among the people now is, that

JOHN L. WEST

has committed a blunder in waiving an examination before the Police Court last week. What Mr. West's defense is, we are unable to state, but if he attempts to establish such a defense as reported in an alleged interview with him not long since, he will stand a poor chance of acquittal before a jury in this city. His most intimate friends have disregarded his statement and don't seem inclined to render any assistance whatever. In prosperity we can find friends by the score, in adversity these friends are no more." Mrs. Page has but one alternative and that is to convict West to save herself. West says that she is a perfect lady and that he will not implicate her in any way. If this be true, West is a doomed man. There is no excuse for him.

LOUISE TO CLARA.

Dear Clara: I never laughed so much in my life as I did at your last letter to the Household. I think it is advisable to dismiss the marriage matter from the circle and discuss matters more important. I shall call your attention this week to our

PUBLIC SCHOOLS,

which I believe to be the topic of great comment at this time.

I see that Commissioner Webb has decided to give us a High School. The Summer School will be renovated and converted into a High School and a new Eight school room building will be erected on the vacant lot next to the Summer school. This is Mr. Johnson's suggestion and if carried out I think that it will be an improvement. It is strange to me, what influence some of these females bring to bear on our school trustees, which enable them to obtain a school. We have hundreds of young ladies who are morally capable of holding these positions, but, it seems that those who have fallen from grace have the preference. I have in my mind now, of a young woman, who has disgraced herself and the community knows it, notwithstanding it has had no bar to her getting a school.

There are deserving young ladies to day in our public schools who cannot obtain a promotion, while others less deserving are holding some of the most important positions. A certificate of graduation is not all that should entitle one to a teachers position. After graduating it should be ascertained whether such person or persons are morally capable of teaching.

OUR HIGH SCHOOL

should be conducted upon a basis that should entitle the graduates to enter any high institution. What should be taught in the High School is the question? Does our colored High School afford any inducements for the young boys who are growing up in idleness, in this community?

I understand that Mr. Johnson will ask for an industrial department and other departments of practical importance to the colored youth. Latin and Greek are of no importance in our High School. The language of the day, such as German, French &c., will be of some benefit. The High School course should be 4 years after the pupil has finished the 8th grade. There is no excuse for not having sufficient school facilities. Commissioner Webb, I firmly believe, will give the school board all it asks.

It is very unfortunate about Mr. West. This is a warning to our young men to keep out of evil. It is better to be the wife of a respectable colored lady than to be the slave and tool of those who only want money. Young ladies should scorn all gamblers. No respectable lady or one who has any pride will become the wife of any gambler. The law on gambling in this community is inadequate or the police force is insufficient to detect the evils that are perpetrated in this city. I heard Col. Geo. W. Williams last week on

THE NEGRO PROBLEM.

Such papers as these benefit the race. The Philomathian Literary Society is becoming to be one of the finest in the country. I understand that Miss Lucy Moton will favor the society with a paper soon. You know I must go and hear Lucy. I know of her qualifications and I am quite sure that she will be greeted with a classic audience. I shall inform the House hold when she will read her paper.

You referred to a little circumstance last week, which startled the Household. I was not aware that any body had taking the liberty to introduce an objectionable person to our circle. That is the way some do, when you give them the least privilege. I have the highest regard for the gentlemen who has been guilty of this gross piece of etiquette, nevertheless, I think that he should be more careful in the future.

I met our dear friend Mr. Asbury and bride while here. I suppose you are acquainted with the lady he married? It was Miss Allen who was the guest of Mrs. Brown's. She is a remarkably fine young lady. The next marriage, I believe will be the lady on O st., and our dear old friend Joseph. When it is to take place I am unable to say, but I think it will be some time soon. The life of the Bethel Literary is Col. Arnold. Minister Smith's paper last week was a master piece of oratory. Until I hear from you, remember.

Yours affectionately,
LOUISE.

THE BROTHERHOOD LITERARY.

LAWYER DAVIS MAKES THE ANNUAL ADDRESS. RACE PROGRESS &c.

Balto, Md., Dec. 6th, '86.

The Brotherhood of Liberty is a large organization of representative, influential men here, with the purpose of furthering the interests of colored citizens and securing and maintaining their rights under the Constitution of the U. S. Rev. H. Johnson was president for the first year, Rev. P. H. A. Braxton, vice president, and Wm. Alexander, sec'y. The first annual meeting was held in Douglass Institute on Tuesday evening the 23d ult. The annual report showed that more than \$300 had been collected and expended in the prosecution of cases in the courts and otherwise in the interest of the colored people of the community. Rev. J. O. Allen was chosen president for the ensuing year, after which the annual address was delivered by Lawyer J. S. Davis. Mr. Davis spoke for nearly an hour and I append below a short synopsis of his address as being of interest, not only to the colored people of Baltimore, but to all who are deeply interested in the material

progress of the race. After commenting on the need of unity, and the usefulness of organizations like the Brotherhood, Mr. Davis reverting to the question of the attitude of the government toward its colored citizens said—

"The Declaration of American Independence sets out with an enumeration of the truths that all men are created equal etc. The constitutional amendments abolished slavery and declared our right to citizenship and suffrage and gave Congress the right to enforce their terms by appropriate legislation. But when the legislative branch attempted to exercise its constitutional right, the judicial branch said in-effect, no, you can't coerce a state. Such precedents are dangerous in the extreme. The old states rights sentiments are as alive to day as they were in the days of John C. Calhoun, and we often find the curious anomaly of persons who are citizens of a state, who are yet for many political purposes not citizens of the U. S. The jealousy existing in some quarters against federal supremacy, loses no opportunity to encroach on federal laws. With increasing vigor on the part of states rights apostles, and a gradual diminution in federal supremacy, this government as at present constituted cannot always stand the test of time. Colored people in various sections of the country are subjected to cruel injustice and indignities which the states will not, and the U. S. says, it can't avert. Mob violence and lynch law are perpetrated upon them and they seek redress in vain. Common carriers impose upon them in flagrant violation of their own contracts. Trials of colored men charged with crime in many tribunals of the south are mere parodies on justice. Black laws defile the statute books of many states in open violation of the spirit and letter of the Constitution and the general government confesses its inability to remedy these wrongs. The whole force of the State Department can be set in motion to arrest the prosecution of an American citizen in Mexico, but has not yet learned that charity should begin at home. Executive proclamations breathing dire vengeance can be sent out to protect the Chinese from a Wyoming mob, but they can't reach the assassins of colored men in a Mississippi court of justice."

Referring to the question of Civil Rights, Mr. Davis continuing said that it was made to mean most anything. "The great bug bear of social equality is made to loom up so big as to completely overshadow the most claim of civil liberty. One of the grandest principles of civilization consists in the right of every man to choose his own associates and to guard his own fireside. If social equality is anything at all, this is just what it is: going to the same places of amusement, or stopping at the same hotel or drinking at the same soda fountain or riding in the same cars no more in value the question of social equality than breathing the same air, eating the same food, living in the same country or serving the same God."

He advocated national aid to education as an imperative duty on the part of the government in order to sustain and strengthen its own institutions. He made a strong plea for colored teachers in the colored schools and also for industrial education as one of the greatest needs of the rising generation of colored youth. He thought that co-operation was the surest means of solving the business problem for the race. Upon the charge often brought against the race of propagating and perpetuating a criminal class he said—"In proportion to our numbers and opportunities, we do not contribute a larger number of persons to this prison class than any other race of men. The large proportion of crimes committed are the direct outgrowth of oppression of one kind or another. Infringement of rights will drive men to desperate deeds of violence."